

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

3. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1 [or 2], characterized in that said accumulated second energy supply is obtained from at least one spring means (7, 7a-7d) compressed at an earlier stage.
4. (Amended) Method according to Claim 1[, 2 or 3], characterized in that the electric motor (2) which is used for generating the electromechanically generated first energy supply is, after the loading operation has been completed, used to supply new accumulated energy to the energy accumulator (7, 7a-d) again in the form of tensioned spring energy or the like.
5. (Amended) Arrangement for, in accordance with the method according to [one of Patent Claims of Claim 1-4] Claim 1, during the first part of the loading operation in the loading of artillery pieces, accelerating the component with which the piece is to be loaded, such as a shell (1) or one or more propellant powder charges, to a sufficiently high velocity that the component can, during the second, concluding part of the loading operation, cover the final distance in the barrel of the piece up to ramming in its own free movement, characterized in that the energy generator used for generating this acceleration consists of an electric motor (2), the rotating starting acceleration of which is mechanically converted into the desired linear acceleration movement with which the component is accelerated to the desired ramming velocity.
8. (Amended) Arrangement according to Claim 6 [or 7], characterized in that said mechanical means for converting the rotating starting acceleration of the electric motor into a linear acceleration of the electric motor into a linear accelerating movement consists of a first feed chain (4) which runs in a closed loop in the desired acceleration direction of the component for loading around on the one hand a first chain wheel (3) connected firmly to the output shaft of the motor (2) and on the other

hand a second chain wheel (5) arranged in the running direction of the feed chain (4), while the energy accumulator (7, 7a) is coupled to a second feed chain (9) which, in a closed loop, runs parallel to the first feed chain around two chain wheels (10, 11), one of which is mounted firmly on the same spindle as the second chain wheel (5) of the first feed chain, these two last-mentioned chain wheels (11, 5) rotating and driving in the same direction when they are acted on via the motor and , respectively, the energy accumulator, while the shell rammer (6) is connected to and driven by said first feed chain,

9. (Amended) Arrangement according to [Claims 5-8] Claim 5, characterized in that the energy accumulator (7, 7a-d) consists of a spring means in the form of a pneumatic or coil spring, the movement of the two feed chains in one direction, activated by the motor, bringing about an accumulation of energy by stressing the spring means at the same time as a return of the shell rammer (6) to a starting position, while a movement in the opposite direction brings about an acceleration of the shell rammer and the component for loading (1) in question, while energy is supplied from both the motor (2) and the energy accumulator (7, 7a).
10. (Amended) Arrangement according to [Claims 5-7] Claim 5, characterized in that it comprises a feed chain (4a) which runs around two chain wheels (3a, 5a) in a closed loop and is driven by an electric motor (2) via one of the chain wheels (3a), while a planetary gear (13) is connected to the other chain wheel (5a) of the feed chain (4), which chain wheel can be, depending on the circumstances, either driven by or driving relative to the feed chain, while the output shaft of the planetary gear is connected to a crank arm (14), at the outer end of which, fixed between the latter and a fixed point (16), a spring means (7b) in the form of a pneumatic or coil spring is arranged, while a shell rammer (6a) is connected to the feed chain (4a).

12. (Amended) Arrangement according to [one of Claims 10 or 11] Claim 10, characterized in that the electric motor (2) and systems connected to it can be driven in optional directions either for acceleration of the shell or for charging the energy accumulator.
13. (Amended) Arrangement according to Claim 11 [or 12], characterized in that the feed chain (4) also bears, in addition to the shell rammer (6b), a stop (17) for braking shells (1) supplied to the arrangement, the energy supplied to the stop (17) during braking of the respective shell (1) being utilized to drive the planetary gear (13) in a direction which at least to an extent brings about charging of the energy accumulator (7b), while the charging of the same is completed by the electric motor (2).
16. (Amended) Arrangement according to [one of Claims 5-15,] Claim 5, characterized in that it comprises members which start the release of the energy supply from the energy accumulator at the same time as the electric motor is started.
17. (Amended) Arrangement according to [one of Claims 5-16,] Claim 5, characterized in that it comprises members for loading the electric motor (2) in a direction which brakes the triggering of the energy accumulators until the time of ramming when the current direction to the motor is switched.